



**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**Executive Office of Health and Human Services**  
**Department of Public Health**  
**State Laboratory Institute**  
**305 South Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130**

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SECRETARY

**JOHN AUERBACH**  
COMMISSIONER

September 15, 2009

Stephanie Page  
Committee for Public Counsel Services  
Public Defenders Division  
Trial Court  
44 Bromfield Street  
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Ms. Page:

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health's Division of Analytical Chemistry is responding to your request dated September 1, 2009. The Forensic Drug Laboratory data are calculated according to the date the items are analyzed, and it does not include items that were analyzed by the Massachusetts State Police Drug Unit or the University of Massachusetts Medical School, Drugs of Abuse Laboratory.

An additional category, "Not Tested," is included for your convenience. Items that are submitted but not tested by the MDPH Forensic Drug Laboratories include, but are not limited to, samples associated with cases when the defendant has accepted a plea in lieu of a trial, or cases when items are determined to be overly redundant. An example of this might be when paraphernalia is submitted along with a suspect drug; if the suspect drug is found to be a controlled substance then the associated paraphernalia would not be tested.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 617-983-6651.

Sincerely,

Julianne Nassif  
Director, Division of Analytical Chemistry

**Items Analyzed in Calendar Year 2008 by the MDPH Forensic Drug Laboratories**

	<b>No Controlled Substance Found</b>	<b>Controlled Substance Found *</b>	<b>Not Tested</b>
<b>Amherst Laboratory</b>	308	7,163	5
<b>Boston Laboratory</b>	1,054	30,605	2,954

\* Items in this category may be over the counter products.